In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Original) Drug-containing sustained release microparticles characterized by comprising a drug other than human growth hormone and a porous apatite derivative.

2. (Original) Drug-containing sustained release microparticles characterized by comprising a drug other than human growth hormone, a porous apatite derivative and a water-soluble bivalent metal compound.

3. (Currently Amended) The drug-containing sustained release microparticles according to claim 1 ~~or~~ [[2]], characterized in that the porous apatite derivative is a porous apatite derivative in which a portion of calcium as a constituent of hydroxyapatite is substituted with zinc during production.

4. (Original) The drug-containing sustained release microparticles according to claim 3, characterized in that the porous apatite derivative has a zinc substitution rate or zinc content rate of 0.1 to 2.0.

5. (Original) The drug-containing sustained release microparticles according to claim 2, characterized in that the water-soluble bivalent metal compound is a zinc compound.

6. (Original) The drug-containing sustained release microparticles according to claim 5, characterized in that the water-soluble bivalent metal compound is zinc chloride or zinc acetate.

7. (Currently Amended) A preparation for parenteral administration characterized by comprising, drug-containing sustained release microparticles according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 1 ~~to~~ [[6]].

8. The preparation according to claim 7, characterized in that the preparation for parenteral administration is either a subcutaneous injection or an intramuscular injection.

9. A process for producing drug-containing sustained release microparticles characterized by comprising: dispersing under agitation microparticles of a porous apatite derivative in an aqueous solution containing a drug so that the aqueous solution infiltrates into the porous apatite derivative; adding thereto an aqueous solution containing a water-soluble bivalent metal compound so that the water-soluble bivalent metal compound infiltrates into the porous apatite derivative; further adding an additive such as a stabilizer to the mixture; and effecting lyophilization or vacuum-drying.

10. The production process according to claim 9, characterized in that the porous apatite derivative is a porous apatite derivative in which a portion of calcium as a constituent of hydroxyapatite is substituted with zinc during production.

11. The production process according to claim 10, characterized in that the porous apatite derivative has a zinc substitution rate or zinc content rate of 0.1 to 2.0

12. The process according to claim 9, characterized in that the water-soluble bivalent metal compound is zinc chloride or zinc acetate.